Posts in Song and Drama Division

1141. SHRI KAPIL VERMA : SHRI RAOOF VALIULLAH : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) What are the reasons for not posting an Officer trained in theatre craft to head the Song and Drama Division as full time Director ;

(b) what are the reasons for not filling the vacant posts in the Song and Drama Division which have been lying vacant for long ;

(c) what are the reasons for withholding promotions and confirmations in this Division ; and

(d) the number of posts of staff artistes and others lying vacant in the Division ;

(e) since when these are vacant ; and

(f) what are the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI V. N. GADGIL) : (a) The Union Public Service Commission had advertised the post of Director twice and interviewed the candidates in 1983 and 1985 but none of them was found suitable for appointment.

(b) to (f) 84 posts are lying vacant, some due to ban on filling up of posts since 1983 and others due to the present proposal of merger of Song and Drama Diviosin with Directorate of Field Publicity which is under examination of the Ministry. Promotions have also been with-held pending a decision in this matter. No confirmations have been with-held.

Central Assistance to Bihar for Floods

1142. SHRI SURAJ PRASAD : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that a number of Villages in Bihar are being affected by floods following the recent monsoon rains ;

(b) if so, the villages and the total area affected thereby the details of loss of life and property ;

(c) whether the Central Government have extended any financial help for the relief work ; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA): (a) and (b) According to the latest report submitted by the State Government of Bihar, the extent of damages caused in the wake of recent floods is as under :--

(i) No. of distt. affected	5
(ii) No. of Blocks affected	36
(iii) No. of villages affected	1678
(iv) Population affected	21·60 lakhs
(v) No. of Human lives lost	4
(vi) Total area affected	4·94 lakh ha.
(vii) Cropped area affected	1·36 lakh ha.
(viii) No. of Houses damaged	22325
(ix) Damage to Public Property.	Rs.816·00 lakhs

(c) and (d) No Central assistance has been sought by the State Government so far. However, the State Government has Margin Money of Rs. 33.75 Crores (equally shared by the State & Central Government) at their disposal for meeting the expenditure necessitated due to natural calamities.

Review of Land Reform Policy

1143. SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to review the land reform policy ; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI RAMANAND YADAV) : (a) and (b) Land Reform is a State subject. The policy and implementation of land reform is periodically reviewed with the State Governments. The last review was done with the Revenue Ministers of States and Union Territories on 18-5-1985. The consensus arrived thereat had been sent to the State Governments for appropriate action. The broad details of the concensus are as follows :

Abolition of Intermediates :

(A). Pending work may be reviewed by 31-3-1986 for its early completion and legislative action may be taken within 2 years to abolish the few intermediary tenures still in existence and action completed by the end of the Seventh plan.

Security of tenure and conferment of rights :

(B). (i) A drive should be undertaken for completion by 30-6-86 by the Official machinery to ascertain oral and insecure informal tenants and share-croppers with the help of panachayats, voluntary organisations and local people and bring them on record, irrespective of whether tenancy is recognised or abolished in the State. This may be completed by 31-12-1986. Security of tenure should be ensured to all categories of tenants and share croppers.

(ii) States where rent payable is higher than 1/4 to 1/5 of gross produce should bring it down.

(iii) Ownership rights should be conferred on tenants and share-croppers after they are brought on record. Legislative provisions for this, where do not exist, should be made within 2 years.

(iv) Unnecessary exemption permitting tenancy against national policy should be reviewed and legislative or administrative action taken by 31-3-1986 to remove tham as well as for banning of leasing except by specified exempted categories as per national policy and banning of transfers of agricultural land to non-agriculturists.

(v) State and Union Territories should consider moving towards a stricter definition of personal cultivation in order to prevent clandestine tenancies.

Protection of interests of tribals :

In order to protect the interests of tirbals in land, existing provisions regarding banning of transfer of land belonging to tribals to